

**THE GHOST LAID IN JAPAN.**

By Rev. R. E. McAlpine.

For several years now it has been current rumor that "there is some trouble in Japan between the Japanese Church and the Missions." So strongly has this been emphasized (not to say exaggerated), that use has been not infrequently made of it in public addresses and private conversations to the turning away of interest and even of good workers, from Japan, toward other fields. This land has therefore suffered no inconsiderable injury and loss thereby. It is with the desire to do something toward correcting that impression that these lines are written. Let it be known far and wide, that the Japanese Synod, by its action last week, has effectually removed all basis for such an impression.

A difference of opinion still remains, as to how a mission should co-operate with this church; but that that difference will lead to any rupture between the missions and the Church has now been rendered next to impossible. Fully a year ago, this seemed likely the case, for at that time a plan was offered in Synod for forming a looser connection with the missions than had been previously proposed; and to this alternative the missions had not the least objection, except in quite minor particulars. And although this plan was postponed till this year's session of Synod, all have felt quite confident that Synod would adopt it.

Happily now our confidence in Synod has just been shown to be well placed, inasmuch as they have adopted the "Affiliation Plan" for an alternative connection of a looser character, and we can go home happy. There is no doubt that our mission will be one of those which will immediately form this connection; and that it will work well, we also are convinced. Indeed it is sometimes suggested that this plan will be found to work so well and to bring us and our brethren of the Synod into such a happy fellowship that later on we will be moved voluntarily to apply for the closer and more organic relation with the Synod. If practice and testing shall show our previous reasoning to have been faulty, none will be happier or more willing to acknowledge it and seek prompt amending than ourselves.

Meanwhile, will all who are praying for Missions in general kindly take note of the above fact that the GHOST IS LAID, and lend their friendly aid in dispelling the incorrect impression?

Nagoya, Japan.

**KIANGSU MISSION.**

The annual meeting of our Kiangsu Mission has just passed into history. We had a larger attendance at this meeting than ever before, and we had a lot of hard work, keeping us busy from nine o'clock Monday morning till eleven o'clock Saturday night.

During the year just closed two new central stations have been occupied, Haichow, about 100 miles north of Tsingkiangpu, near the Yellow Sea coast; and Taichow, a large city about 70 miles northeast, as the water runs, from Chin-

kiang, and formerly an outstation belonging to the Chinkiang field.

We have now 7 central stations in our mission and are planning to open at least one more in the near future.

We have five organized churches, and arrangements were made to form a Presbytery in the northern end of our field. We have on our rolls about 685 communicants. Seven years ago we had 100. When your correspondent, 23 years ago, went up the Grand Canal to open our first station north of the river at Tsingkiangpu, he was aware that large possibilities lay before us in that wide district of country, and he has not been disappointed. However, as yet little more than a good beginning has been made. A careful estimate, which is based on pretty reliable data, and after making liberal allowance for what other missions are doing in our field, still leaves us about 12,000,000 of people to evangelize—as many as in the whole of Korea. Our field north and south of the river covers about two-thirds of the Kiangsu province, and very nearly the whole of it thickly populated. Our responsibilities are staggering and our opportunities unlimited. What is a congregation in America composed of "gospel spirited Christians and gospel hardened sinners" compared with the possibilities of usefulness in a field like ours!

A. Sydenstricker. Kuling, China.

**FOREIGN MISSION NOTES.**

Dr. J. Bruce Patterson, of Clarks, La., was appointed as a medical missionary to Korea. Dr. Wm. Malcolm, of Washington City, was appointed as a medical missionary to China. Rev. J. Porter Smith, son of Rev. J. Rockwell Smith, D. D., of Campinas, Brazil, was appointed as a missionary to Brazil.

The secretary was instructed to convey to Dr. A. J. A. Alexander, of Spring Station, Ky., the sympathy of the Committee with him in his recent bereavement by the death of his mother.

The following resolution on the death of Rev. J. W. Lupton, D. D., a former member of the Committee was adopted:

"This Committee makes record of its sincere sorrow in hearing of the death of Rev. J. W. Lupton, D. D., at his home in Winchester, Va. For the many years that he labored with us in this Committee we found him a wise counsellor, a devoted friend and brother beloved. We also request Dr. McNeilly to write a letter of condolence to his widow, commending her in her loneliness to the grace of God, which is able to sustain." The Committee having learned that the health of Rev. J. O. Reavis had become impaired on account of overwork, Dr. Reavis was instructed to cancel all field appointments made by him for dates later than October 20, and to take a complete vacation until such time as his work can be resumed with safety to his health. The secretary was instructed to send a communication to all our ministers expressing the Committee's view of the un wisdom of investing Foreign Mission contributions in the support of visitors from Oriental countries, claiming to be in this

country for the purpose of preparing themselves for Mission work in their home lands. S. H. Chester, Secretary.

**RESOLUTIONS OF BLUEFIELD CHURCH.**

Bluefield: Whereas, Rev. P. C. Clark, the pastor of this congregation, has for some years past felt and manifested a great and sincere interest in the "Home Mission Work" of our church in the two Virginias, and his interest and love for the work in this important field having become so pronounced and heartfelt that he deems it his duty to relinquish his pastoral work and devote his time and talents to the promotion and advancement of said work; and having signified his intention to dissolve the relations now subsisting between himself and this congregation and informed the Session thereof, and Whereas, this congregational meeting has been called for the purpose of ascertaining the will of this congregation on the resignation aforesaid, Now therefore, be it, by the members of the Presbyterian church of Bluefield, West Virginia, in congregational meeting assembled, Resolved, That it is with the deepest regret that the members of this church receive the information that our beloved pastor has expressed his determination to dissolve the pastoral relations now subsisting between himself and this congregation; and while we deeply deplore his intention to so do, and leave our church and city, we fully appreciate and know his decided ability and fitness to fill the place in this field of God's work, and especially in those departments in which he feels a peculiar interest as he does in the work that he has decided to take upon himself; and we do with great reluctance consent to the dissolution of the same; but in deference to the steadfast determination of our pastor to undertake a work which has for so long commanded his interest and sympathy we do consent thereto; and in so giving our consent to the said dissolution, we hereby tender to our said pastor our most sincere and heartfelt thanks and gratitude for twelve and one-half consecutive years of able and faithful service as the beloved and trusted pastor of this church, during which time he has won the confidence and devotion of the members thereof, and we unhesitatingly commend him, his faithful wife and most excellent children to the love and confidence of the people in his new field of activity. And be it further Resolved, That in view of the foregoing, this congregation, in congregational meeting assembled, doth now and hereby consent and agree that the said relations now subsisting between the said pastor and congregation be and the same are hereby dissolved, and we unite with our said pastor in his request to Presbytery that these resolutions be ratified by it, and the secretary of this meeting is hereby directed to transmit a copy of these resolutions to the "Presbyterian of the South" and the "Christian Observer," with the request that said resolutions be published therein, and to deliver a copy of the same to our said pastor.